



ACH 2650 P1US

AMENDED CLAIMS

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JUL 10 2003  
GROUP 1700

- C<sup>1</sup>
1. (currently amended) A carrier composition comprising
    - a) at least ~~30~~40 wt% of a synthetic cracking component, based on the total weight of the carrier composition, which comprises oxidic compounds of one or more trivalent metallic elements, tetravalent metallic elements, and divalent metallic elements, said cracking component comprising elemental clay platelets with an average diameter of 1  $\mu$ m or less and an average degree of stacking of 20 platelets per stack or less, and/or comprising a cogel with a saponite content  $C_A$  of less than 60 %, and in which the total of sodium and potassium (calculated as metal) amounts to less than 1 wt%, based on the total weight of the cogel, and
    - b) 1-25 wt% of zeolite Y, based on the total weight of the carrier composition, with a unit cell size ~~below~~between 24.20 and 24.35Å.
  2. (original) The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the clay of which the clay platelets are formed is a saponite.
  3. (original) The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the cogel comprises oxidic compounds of , aluminum, silicon, and magnesium.
  4. (original) The carrier composition of claim 1 wherein the carrier composition comprises an amorphous support material.
  5. (original) The carrier composition of claim 4 wherein the amorphous support material comprises alumina.

6. (original) A catalyst comprising the carrier composition of claim 1 and at least one hydrogenation metal component selected from a Group VIB metal component, a Group VIII metal component or mixtures thereof.
  7. (original) The catalyst of claim 6 wherein the hydrogenation metal component comprises a combination of tungsten and nickel components.
  8. (withdrawn).
  9. (withdrawn).
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